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Naval Autograph Collection of Letters and Documents

Collection Summary

Title:	Naval Autograph Collection of Letters and Documents
Call Number:	MS 92-11
Size:	0.25 linear feet
Acquisition:	Purchased from Christie, Manson & Woods
Processed by:	TGT, 11-6-1991; MN, 4-16-1996; JEF, 10-22-1998; MN, 12-13-2011
Restrictions:	None

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Content Note

This collection of letters and documents date from 1646 to 1874. They describe British naval operations with accounts of cannon attacks, tables of signal codes, and certification of admirals' and captains' service records. Some of the ports mentioned are Lisbon, Martinique, Penzance and Antigua. Notable correspondents include Admiral Collingwood, James Crowther and Lord Robert Rich Warwick, a Puritan intimately connected with the early history of the American Colonies..

Box and Folder Listing

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| Box 1 | FF 1 | Itemized list of repairs made by R & W Jones, Ship Chandlers and Sailmakers, Port Dinorivic, for owners of the schooner "Fanny Durrant" between January 3 and July 25, 1874: (1) Letter to Mr. Barkham, naval officer at English Harbour, from James Douglas, Commander-in-chief of his Majesty's ship and vessels written from Ship Dublin, October 16, 1760; (2) Letter to Hugh McIlraith, naval officer, Antigua, from Commodore Wood, May 12, 1803. |
| Box 1 | FF 2 | Admiralty Office form letter and memorandum from James William Jones to James Shrapnell regarding service record in Royal Navy, July 30, 1817. |

- Box 1 FF 3 Captain Sir Robert Laurie Bart to Mr. Shrapnell regarding orders, March 14, 1809: (1) Memorandum of the Services of the Lieutenant James Shrapnell; (2) Note from Colonel Shrapnell to Mr. Giddy postponing meeting, August 20, 1812, Penzance; (3) Partial application for James Shrapnell's son, John Peter, to enter a Greenwich school; application includes lists of ships on which James Shrapnell served, n.d.
- Box 1 FF 4 Two documents in Italian language, dated March 1807 from Constantiopoli.
- Box 1 FF 5 French passport for Elizabeth de Douvren, April 1792.
- Box 1 FF 6 Documents regarding a naval victory of Earl of St. Vincent, a list of admirals and captains dated February 14, 1797, letters from Earl of St. Vincent and Admiral Collingwood, and certifications of admirals and captains in naval service; items date between 1783 and 1807.
- Box 1 FF 7 Letter of Admiral G. B. Rodney to Mr. Barkham, shopkeeper in Antigua, regarding Captain McPherson, January 9, 1762: (1) Darby, Commander of H.M.S. Spencer, n.d.
- Box 1 FF 8 Engraving and signature of Rt. Hon. Lieut. Sir George Murray, 1831.
- Box 1 FF 9 Manuscript order replacing injured cook, John Ballard, by William Armstrong on the Ship John, signed by Lord Robert Rich Warwick, Giles Green, John Rolle, et al. Dated May 28, 1646.
- Box 1 FF 10 Naval telegraph, table of J. Crowther's "Manysign" system, along with an autograph letter from Crowther to Lord Melville, First Lord of Admiralty, explaining system and including diagram demonstrating how signs may be used, dated January 25, 1817.
- Box 1 FF 11 Miscellaneous letters and documents: (1) Letter to Miss Lucinda Parke "by a soldier in the Buffs," n.d.; (2) Document entitled "Signals local and numerary," including handcolored flags in signal table, and accompanying letter from MacBride to Sir Charles Middleton, written from Plympton, October 20, no year listed; (3) Memos from Winslow, in "Relation to the Achison" and "Relation to Lord Nelson's kind conduct to me after loss of Achison," n.d. First memo gives description of happenings on board ship during cannon attack; (4) Portion of certification of Daniel B. Beale, midshipman, dated November 5, 1813. Signed by commanding officer, signature illegible; (5) Letter to Captain Pouldin from Berkeley regarding ship and troop movement near Lisbon subject to approval by "Lord W.," n.d.; (6) Portion of letter with three signatures, one readable as Middleton, the other two illegible. Note in corner in different handwriting indicates the letter came from Navy Office, March 2, 1826; (7) Letter from Sir John Jervis to Mr. Arch Dow, Naval Storekeeper, Antigua, informing that instructions and documents that have been sent out by Admiralty of Naval Boards to Storekeeper and others in Antigua may be sent to John Salisbury, Esq., at Martinique as account of establishment of Antigua yard; (8) Letter to an addressee in Bombay acknowledging receipt of letter, n.d. Handwriting is mostly illegible.

For information, please contact us at:

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